

they are attempting to trap a large number of vice con-
(AP Wirephoto)

Courthouse Storm Brews

By Alan Jones
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Another tempest over the new courthouse plans may be brewing between the city, county and redevelopment agency.

The issue this time is access to the courthouse parking lots along Water street.

The county wants a full-width "street-type" curb cut to allow cars to enter and leave the parking lot in both directions — in-

cluding left turn exits onto Water street.

The city has already installed a regular "driveway" type of curb cut, and wants to bar left turn exits to keep from snarling Water street traffic.

The redevelopment agency wants the curb cut to be for entrance only, with cars leaving the lot via Ocean street.

The access problem became crucial last month when the city council altered plans for the widening of Water street, knocking out a proposed divider strip so cars could turn left toward businesses along the north side of the street.

The divider would have prevented left turn exits from the courthouse lot, with the attendant traffic problem.

While the city is building the street, the county could rip out the curb cut later and install the type it wants — except for the redevelopment agency. The agency has control over the access and could veto county plans.

The agency was stirred up last night on discovering that plans for the entry had been changed considerably since the agency approved the parking lot layout two years ago. That layout was changed when the street widening project was announced a year ago, but the change apparently never came before the agency. A revised layout was included in the voluminous construction plans, approved a year ago, but there is a mystery involved in that, too.

The agency discovered this week that the page showing the parking layout and access had been cut from the construction plans. The page was not missing, just loose, but there was speculation that it may have been excluded when construction plans were presented.

The agency ordered that a letter be sent to county officials, asking them to appear at the January agency meeting and explain the access changes.

'Missing' Persons Sought

County population experts say some 600 Watsonville houses may be "missing" — and the people in them, too.

So a quick search is planned of Watsonville areas this weekend as part of a double-check of the county's census, completed last month and now tabulated on state finance department computers.

The higher the total, the more money cities and counties will get as their share of gas tax funds.

Census head Henry Baker said today the number of housing "units" in Watsonville is shown to be suspiciously low by the computers. A recount in key spots will confirm or deny this, and also show if population figures are wrong.

Under current figures, Watsonville's population was counted at 13,212, less than the 1960 census count of 13,293.

Next week, Santa Cruz city officials will have a chance to look over the computer totals on their city and decide if they, too, will need a recount.